BENNINGTON COLLEGE

2016-2017
VISITING STUDENT APPLICATION

Application materials are due October 1st for the spring term, or March 15th for the fall term.

Checklist for completing the application:

- ❑ **Completed Personal Information Form**: Please be sure to include all of the requested contact information.
- ❑ **Completed Emergency Contact Form**
- ❑ **Proposed Course of Study Form**: Complete this form to the best of your ability to identify the courses you're most interested in taking at Bennington. Please note: official registration will take place after admittance and consultation with a member of the Academic Services staff.
- ❑ **Completed Financial Responsibility Agreement**
- ❑ **Completed Field Work Term Questionnaire**
- ❑ **Signed Declaration of Agreement**
- ❑ **Completed Home School Authorization**
- ❑ **Application Essay**: Please submit a typed statement describing as fully as possible your reasons for studying at Bennington College. Please be specific about how the program of study offered at Bennington will enrich your academic curriculum at your home institution. How will it complement prior course work? How will it prepare you for specific courses or projects you plan to pursue after returning to your home institution?
- ❑ **Graded Writing Sample:** Copies of a graded academic writing and creative writing (when applicable) samples in English. Photocopied or scanned copies are acceptable.
- ❑ **Faculty Recommendation:** Please include a recommendation from a faculty member who knows you and your work well and who can attest to the appropriateness of your study at Bennington to the larger course of your academic study.
- ❑ **Copy of Your Passport Picture Page:** Passport must be valid through the duration of your intended stay at Bennington (international students only).
- ❑ **Transcript(s):** Official transcripts from all colleges and universities you have attended.

In addition, applicants who are not native speakers of English should submit the following:

- ❑ **Demonstration of English:**
  - ❑ English Language Background Form (attached). This form is to be completed by the applicant *and* the applicant's English language instructor.
  - ❑ Students who are not native speakers of English need to take the Test Of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), unless the student's primary language of instruction at the secondary school level is English. To be considered for admission, a minimum TOEFL score of 90-91 for the internet-based test, 233 for the computer-based test, or 577 for the paper-based test is required. A band score of 7 or more on the Academic Module of the IELTS exam is also acceptable.

Please note: after acceptance to Bennington College as a visiting student, you will be sent and asked to complete an intent to enroll form, health forms, a Tuberculosis screening form, an I-20 form to obtain a United States Visa (if applicable), as well as information on registration and housing. You will also be asked to pay an enrollment deposit.

Please submit the completed application package to:

Kendra Ericson, Director of Study Away
Bennington College
One College Drive
Bennington, VT 05201
USA

Please contact Kendra Ericson (802-753-2490 or kericson@bennington.edu) with questions.

BENNINGTON COLLEGE

VISITING STUDENT APPLICATION
PERSONAL INFORMATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Country: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Are you a dependent of a current Bennington College faculty or staff member? If so, please provide the name of that employee: _____

Education:

	Name and Location of Institution	**Graduation Date**	**Degree Earned**
High School			
College			
Graduate Program			

Applying for: ☐ Fall term ☐ Spring term Year(s): _____

Name of Person Writing Letter of Recommendation:

_____

Please contact Kendra Ericson (802-753-2490 or kericson@bennington.edu) with questions.

BENNINGTON COLLEGE

VISITING STUDENT APPLICATION
EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM

I understand that in the case of an emergency, Bennington College officials may notify my emergency contact(s).

_____ _____

Signature **Date**

Please provide your information.

Name: _____ Term(s) at Bennington: _____

Program/University: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please provide complete & accurate information for all emergency contacts listed. If this information changes at any point before or during your time at the College, please notify Kendra Ericson immediately.

1st Emergency Contact: _____

Relationship: _____ Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address (please provide physical address, *not* PO Box): _____

_____

Email Address: _____

2nd Emergency Contact: _____

Relationship: _____ Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address (please provide physical address, *not* PO Box): _____

_____

Email Address: _____

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BENNINGTON COLLEGE

VISITING STUDENT APPLICATION
PROPOSED COURSE OF STUDY FORM

Name of Student: _____

Instructions:

- ❑ Fill in course information about the classes you hope to take while at Bennington College. Please note that course availability may be limited, so be sure to include alternate course selections.
- ❑ You should plan to enroll in 16 Bennington College credits per term.
- ❑ Please note that official registration will take place after admittance and consultation with a member of the Academic Services staff.

Ideal Schedule

Course Title:	Course ID:	Credits:

Total Credits _____

Alternate Courses

Course Title:	Course ID:	Credits:

Please contact Kendra Ericson (802-753-2490 or kericson@bennington.edu) with questions.

BENNINGTON COLLEGE

VISITING STUDENT APPLICATION
FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AGREEMENT

NAME OF STUDENT: _____

Please complete the information below about you and your parent/sponsor. Charges and bills for your attendance at the College will be sent to your parent/sponsor or you, as applicable. You and your parent/sponsor must sign below, indicating that you agree to be jointly and individually liable for all charges made to your student account for tuition, room and board, mandatory fees, and all other College charges, including but not limited to telephone, library, maintenance, parking, and disciplinary charges. Students are required to purchase the medical/health insurance of Bennington College or provide proof of coverage. Students are also responsible for providing their own transportation and living expenses during extended academic recess (i.e. holidays, winter and spring break, etc.), passport expenses, excess baggage shipment and storage, independent travel and such personal expenses as books, etc.

Except for students using the Monthly Payment Plan or the Two Payment Plan, term bills are due and payable in full on August 1 for the fall term and on February 1 for the spring term. A late payment penalty of 2% will be assessed on any amount not paid when due. If it becomes necessary for the College to collect charges unpaid when due, it will be entitled to the costs and expenses of collection, including reasonable attorney's fees. No student will be permitted to receive or to direct delivery of an academic transcript to another party unless all of the student's financial obligations to the College have been met in full.

In case of withdrawal or dismissal, adjustments, if any, to charges will be made only in accordance with the College Refund Policy. By signing below, I/we acknowledge receipt of the Refund Policy.

Student's Address (please type or print): _____

_____

City, State, Zip: _____

Country: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell:** _____

Email Address: _____

Student's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Sponsor's Name: _____

Relationship to Student: _____

Sponsor's Address (please type or print): _____

_____

City, State, Zip: _____

Country: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell:** _____

Parent/Sponsor's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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BENNINGTON COLLEGE

VISITING STUDENT APPLICATION
FIELD WORK TERM (FWT) QUESTIONNAIRE

Unless otherwise required by your home institution, participating in the FWT is optional for visiting students. Visiting students may complete the FWT if they plan to attend Bennington for a full year. Students may NOT complete the FWT if they are coming to study for one term only.

Due to visa restrictions, we are only able to offer the following FWT options for visiting international students:

- Live and work on campus.
- Take part in an internship (volunteer or paid) outside of the United States (e.g. in your home country).

Domestic students who are eligible to participate in FWT may secure an internship within the United States or abroad.

Please note: All costs associated with FWT are the responsibility of the student.

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1. If you will be eligible for participation in FWT:

Do you plan to participate? Yes _____ No _____

2. If you are eligible and you plan to participate, what is your preferred option for FWT (Note: This is not a binding decision)? Please check one:

_____ I plan to live and work on campus

_____ I plan to obtain an internship (volunteer or paid) outside the United States

_____ I plan to obtain an internship (volunteer or paid) within the United States (domestic students only)

3. What are the internship areas in which you would be most interested (for example, education, visual arts, publishing, etc.)?

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*Please note that students may apply for but are not guaranteed on-campus housing during FWT.

Name: _____ Signature: _____

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BENNINGTON COLLEGE

VISITING STUDENT APPLICATION
DECLARATION OF AGREEMENT

- Students must be in good academic and disciplinary standing in order to be eligible to attend Bennington College as a visiting student.
- Prospective visiting students must submit a completed Home School Approval Form indicating their college or university's support of the student's term or year at Bennington College.
- Visiting students are expected to take a multi-disciplinary course load while at the College, e.g. it would not be possible to take only visual arts courses in a term.
- As is the case for all students enrolled in classes full time, visiting students are required to live on campus in College housing with an assigned roommate(s) and participate in the full board plan.
- Bennington College utilizes a narrative evaluation system, which accompanies marks of pass/fail. It is possible to request grades, but visiting students must do so at the beginning of the term by posted deadlines. It is not possible to do this retroactively.
- Visiting Students are expected to register for a full-time course load of 16 credits. Failure to do so may impact financial aid eligibility at your home institution for the coming term.
- Any outstanding fees or payments will result in a hold on transcripts.
- Bennington does not offer financial aid to visiting students.

I, _____, have read and understand the above statements.

Student's signature: _____ Date: _____

I, _____, have read and understand the above statements.

Parent's signature: _____ Date: _____

Please contact Kendra Ericson (802-753-2490 or kericson@bennington.edu) with questions.

BENNINGTON COLLEGE Home School Authorization

Student Authorization

TO THE STUDENT: Please sign this authorization form and give it to your home school study away advisor. The undersigned campus official must be authorized to approve college credit transfer.

THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY THE APPLICANT
Please fill out information completely and type or print in ink.

Name of Applicant

Home School

Term(s) You Plan to Study Away Year

Signature Date

I hereby apply to study at Bennington College for a term or academic year as indicated above and authorize Bennington College to issue my college or university a transcript after my last term of study with Bennington College. I also authorize the release of information needed to complete this form for admission to Bennington College to the academic dean, on-campus coordinator, contact, or study away advisor. I unconditionally and voluntarily consent to the release of such records pursuant to this request.

Under the provision of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, I waive my right of access to this recommendation and understand that the information provided will be used only for the purposes for which it was prepared.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature Date

Home School Authorization

TO THE ADVISOR: If necessary, please use additional pages to give us your evaluation of the applicant's abilities and suitability for a term or year at Bennington College.

THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY THE APPLICANT'S STUDY AWAY ADVISOR AND SENT TO kericson@bennington.edu.

The application of the above-named student is being submitted with my approval. The credit earned during the student's term or year at Bennington ☐**will** ☐**will not** count toward the student's degree.

Name Title/Position

Signature Date

College or University

Telephone Fax

Email

*The existence of a disciplinary record or current disciplinary sanctions does not preclude admission, but will be considered in the overall evaluation of the application. If probation extends past the Bennington College term start date, the student will not be admitted.

Field Work Term (FWT): Every winter our students are required to complete a 7-week non-credit bearing internship. Students visiting for an academic year are eligible to complete an FWT.

☐ FWT participation is OPTIONAL for this student.
☐ The student is REQUIRED to complete an FWT.
☐ N/A Student is visiting for one term only.

Disciplinary Information*

☐ This student is currently not on academic or disciplinary probation.
☐ This student is currently on academic or disciplinary probation.
☐ The official college record stating the details is enclosed.
☐ This student's disciplinary record has been reviewed and approved for study away by an appropriate official at my institution.
☐ I do not have access to this student's disciplinary record.
☐ This student is not approved for study away.

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BENNINGTON COLLEGE

VISITING STUDENT APPLICATION
ENGLISH LANGUAGE BACKGROUND FORM

Applicant's Evaluation
This form is required for visiting student applicants who are not native speakers of English.

To be completed by the applicant:

Name	
Home Institution	

1. Please provide information about college coursework that you have completed in English. List course title, a brief description, and the grade received for the course. (Use a separate sheet or paper if necessary.)

2. What other experience(s) have you had in English?

3. Please evaluate your language abilities in English in the following categories. For each category indicate the level at which you are able to perform.

	None	Sentences	Paragraphs	Simple Academic Topics	Sophisticated Academic Topics
Listening					
Speaking					
Reading					
Writing					

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BENNINGTON COLLEGE

VISITING STUDENT APPLICATION
ENGLISH LANGUAGE BACKGROUND FORM

Language Instructor Recommendation
To be completed by applicants who are not native speakers of English:

Name of Applicant: _____

____I waive my right to see this letter of recommendation.

____I do not waive my right to see this letter of recommendation.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

To be completed by a professional English language instructor:

To the instructor: The applicant named above has applied to study at Bennington College. When students are enrolled in Bennington College classes, they should be able follow lectures in English, participate in discussions, take notes, and produce academic papers in their field of study. Your evaluation of the applicant's English proficiency is very important to ensure the applicant's success as a visiting student. Therefore, please provide as much detailed information as you are able. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

1. Please describe how you know the applicant and for how long.

2. Please comment on the applicant's listening abilities, making specific reference to his/her ability to understand sophisticated academic ideas.

3. Please comment on the applicant's ability to contribute to academic discussions, making specific reference to the quantity and quality of his/her comments.

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BENNINGTON COLLEGE

4. Please comment on the applicant's ability to understand academic texts, making specific reference to his/her ability to understand and synthesize a range of ideas.

5. Please comment on the applicant's writing abilities, making specific reference to his/her ability to express sophisticated academic ideas.

6. Please add any additional comments relating to the applicant's English abilities.

7. Please check as appropriate:

   _____ I approve the applicant to study at Bennington College in English.

   _____ I do not approve the applicant to study at Bennington College in English.

   _____ I conditionally approve the applicant to study at Bennington College in English.

   Under what conditions:

Instructor's signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____ Position or Title: _____

Address: _____

_____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

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